

M. M. C.

Dublin April 26. 1840

My dear friend

The box containing Reports, &c.  
has duly arrived, and its contents have  
been distributed as directed to London,  
Brussels, Glasgow, Paris, &c. The last portion  
of the contents that I examined was the  
Daguerotype which is really beautiful  
as a work of art, and in all other respects  
fully came up to my expectations, ~~that~~ <sup>which</sup>  
is saying a great deal. I am indeed  
greatly obliged to you. No present you could  
have made me would have gratified me  
more. It is greatly admired. An amateur  
in the ~~photography~~ art tells me it is one  
of the very finest he has ever seen. I  
do not wonder that with so large a company  
you should hesitate about going much out of  
your direct route - but if you come to Dublin  
my wife and I will have room enough and  
a highland table for you all. Nothing  
of the kind could satisfy us more than a visit  
from <sup>you</sup> and we will do all we can to make

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you enjoy your ~~old~~ quarters. When you  
do come I hope you will not think of  
going elsewhere than to us in the  
first instance. Meantime I do not  
at all like the idea of your sailing within  
fifty miles of Dublin without my seeing  
you. It has occurred to me that if your  
sister Anne who has done me a kind  
turn more than once would be so  
good as to write by the mail that she  
shall meet before your vessel I would be  
likely to know in time to meet you in  
Liverpool. The mail boats between Liver-  
pool and Dublin make the passage in 8  
hours. They are the swiftest sea boats in  
the world. I do not want now to expect to  
see the being so flawingly described by H.  
Martineau. I want to see you whom I  
reputed so highly before I had ever the least  
expectation of the honor and pleasure of  
knowing you. I think myself very fortunate  
in the possession of the friendship of those  
whose friendship I covet above all others -

and that having blamed it, I have no  
wish to exchange it for that of any  
other. I do not mean to make myself  
a burden to you - and shall be easily  
contented with any time you can  
spare in Liverpool (if any) or on your  
way to London. And perhaps my ser-  
vice might be of some "use" in a  
strange place. I would like to know  
when you will stop in Liverpool, if you  
can tell me and in London. Garrison,  
M. L. Wright and many other of our friends  
have purchased Brown's Temperance  
Hotel, Clayton Square. But it is not a  
very agreeable plan. I have no personal  
knowledge of any other. I will be sure to  
attend to your directions about my corre-  
spondence on the matter connected with the  
cause during your absence. We are all well  
here and have just come out of the purga-  
tory of a general painting & papering - so that  
the house looks as clean as a new pin.

I lent the Book to Miss Edgeworths and she  
wrote to me that she would write to you soon.  
I lent her and that you would shortly be  
in England & that if she wished to write to  
you I would take charge of the letter. I had  
a long interview with her some weeks ago.  
She looks as old as she is - but is remarkably  
bright, clear, and active. It is delightful  
to meet with such people. She made  
me feel quite at ease with her and pressed  
me kindly and cordially to call again  
if I passed that way. You should  
come and see her while she is in Ireland.  
She lives about 60 miles from Dublin  
in the county of Longford. There is a  
Railway about half the distance

Yours very truly

Rich<sup>d</sup> Webb

I am about to write my appointed task - I  
mean my letter to you. I hope the patience  
of my readers may hold out.

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